

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LONDON 03823 261846Z

46

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /031 W
----- 093059

P 261819Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9051

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

S E C R E T LONDON 03823

EXDIS

MOSCOW FOR S/S

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, UK, EC

SUBJECT: VIEWS OF SENIOR FCO OFFICIALS ON US-EC NI
CONSULTATIONS

1. BRIMELOW TODAY RAISED WITH CHARGE ISSUE OF US-EC NINE CONSULTATIONS. HE REITERATED WHAT HE HAD TOLD US PREVIOUSLY THAT CALLAGHAN FAVORS CONTINUING EC NINE POLITICAL COOPERATION PROCESS, BUT INSISTS ON COMPLETE OPENNESS ON PART OF NINE WITH THE US. BRIMELOW SAID CALLAGHAN IS ATTRACTED TO GERMAN IDEA FOR CLOSER CONSULTATION WITH US DURING DECISION-MAKING PROCESS OF NINE BUT CONTINUES TO THINK EACH EC NINE FOREIGN MINISTER SHOULD BE HIS OWN SPOKESMAN.

2. BRIMELOW, WHO WAS SECONDED BY KILLICK, EXPRESSED PERSONAL CONCERN THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER SHOULD NOT HAVE EXCESSIVE EXPECTATIONS THAT CALLAGHAN WOULD BE ABLE TO TURN EC NINE DECISION-MAKING APPARATUS AROUND AND MAKE IT MORE RESPONSIVE TO JUSTIFIABLE CONCERNS OF US FOR MEANINGFUL CONSULTATIONS AT DECISIVE POINTS IN EC NINE DELIBERATIONS. CALLAGHAN, BRIMELOW STRESSED, WAS ANXIOUS TO IMPROVE CONSULTATION BUT OBSTINACY OF THE FRENCH MADE IT UNLIKELY CALLAGHAN COULD HAVE EFFECT ON PROCESSES OF THE NINE WHICH THIS BRITISH GOVERNMENT

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 LONDON 03823 261846Z

WOULD CLEARLY LIKE TO HAVE. BRIMELOW THEREFORE HOPED

THAT US WOULD RECOGNIZE LIMITATIONS ON NEW BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND CALLAGHAN AND WOULD NOT EXPECT BRITISH TO DELIVER TO EXTENT THEY MIGHT WISH TO DO.

3. BRIMELOW RECOUNTED BRIEFLY CONVERSATION HE HAD HAD WITH FRENCH AMBASSADOR DE BEAUMARCHAIS IN LAST DAY OR SO IN WHICH LATTER READING FROM TELEGRAM FROM PARIS MADE CLEAR FRENCH WOULD ONLY AGREE TO PRESIDENT OF NINE CONSULTING WITH THIRD COUNTRIES ON MATTERS OF MUTUAL CONCERN IF NINE WERE IN UNANIMITY. KILLICK COMMENTED AFTERWARDS FRENCH WERE CLEARLY GOING TO RESIST GERMAN IDEA THAT THERE SHOULD BE US-EC NINE CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN POLITICAL DIRECTORS' DISCUSSION AND LATTERS' RECOMMENDATIONS TO MINISTERS. HE UNDERSTOOD THAT FRENCH ARE LIKELY TO TAKE POSITION THAT IF EACH GOVERNMENT OF NINE FEELS FREE TO CONSULT WITH THIRD COUNTRIES (I.E., USA) ON BUSINESS OF THE NINE, FRENCH WILL NOT FEEL BOUND TO CONSULT NINE ON SUCH VITAL MATTERS AS FRENCH POLICY IN MIDDLE EAST.

4. BOTH BRIMELOW AND KILLICK EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT PROBLEM OF CONSULTATION WITH US WHICH THEY, LIKE THEIR POLITICAL SUPERIORS, CONSIDER VITAL, AND DESIRABILITY OF PREVENTING FRANCE FROM STRIKING OFF ON HER OWN FREE FROM AT LEAST MODEST CONSTRAINING INFLUENCES OF THE NINE. THEY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT GREATER BILATERAL CONSULTATION BETWEEN US AND UK AND OTHERS OF NINE WAS NO PROBLEM BUT THEY WERE AT A LOSS TO SEE HOW US-EC NINE COLLECTIVE CONSULTATION COULD BE INTENSIFIED AND MADE MORE MEANINGFUL GIVEN PRESENT INTRANSIGENCE OF FRANCE. BOTH INDICATED THAT THEY SAW MERIT IN HOLDING OFF FOR NOW ATTEMPT TO DESCRIBE IN US-EC NINE DECLARATION ORGANIC CONSULTATIVE RELATIONSHIP WHICH US SEEKS WITH THE NINE. IT WAS IN THEIR VIEW BETTER TO WAIT UNTIL THE ACTUAL PRACTICE DEVELOPED AND THEN SO DESCRIBE IT IN A DOCUMENT. WHILE THEY TOOK NO CATEGORIC POSITION, BOTH SEEMED TO THINK IT WOULD BE BETTER UNTIL FRENCH WERE MORE FLEXIBLE TO LOWER ONE'S SIGHTS AND ENCOURAGE NINE TO HARMONIZE POLICIES RATHER THAN TRY TO WORK OUT A COMMON LINE ON DIFFICULT ISSUES

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 LONDON 03823 261846Z

WHERE CONSEQUENCE MIGHT BE INADEQUATE DISCUSSION AND CONSULTATION WITH THE US. THEY CONCLUDED BY POINTING OUT THAT CONSULTATION WOULD BE KEY TOPIC ON CALLAGHAN'S AGENDA FOR MEETING WITH SECRETARY MARCH 28.

5. COMMENT: THESE OFFICIALS WERE SPEAKING CANDIDLY AND INFORMALLY AND SHOULD BE FULLY PROTECTED. SOHM

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LONDON03823
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740065-0220
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740315/aaaaanpx.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 APR 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <04 FEB 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VIEWS OF SENIOR FCO OFFICIALS ON US-EC NI CONSULTATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, UK, US, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005